

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Attorney Docket No. 007034.00012

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. SECTIONS 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicants wish to make the following references of record in the above-identified application as a result of the International Search Report (a copy of which is enclosed), in the corresponding PCT patent application No. PCT/FR2004/002918, and as a result of the Preliminary Search Report (a copy of which is enclosed) in the corresponding French Patent Application No. FR 0313446.

This Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with the continuing duty of candor as set forth in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56. Copies of the foreign and non-patent references cited and listed on the enclosed and completed Form-PTO/SB/08A are enclosed.

In accordance with MPEP §§ 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that the documents cited be given thorough consideration and that they be cited of record in the prosecution history of the

present application by initialing by the Examiner on Form-PTO/SB/08A, so that they will appear on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

The present disclosure statement is being submitted on compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56 as an Examiner might consider the cited documents important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of such documents is not to be construed as an admission that such documents are necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art, and in the course of such search, will review for relevance the documents cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) within three months of this application's filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

Applicants believe no fees are due. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be due to our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 18, 2006

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